

July 2004



Dear Candidates and Citizens of Fresno;

For the past several years, the City of Fresno has received numerous complaints from citizens with concerns over the growing number of political signs placed throughout the city during election season.

In an effort to be responsive to the citizens and our responsibility under law, the City enforces these regulations during election season and on a continuing basis throughout the year. Enforcement includes: periodic "sweeps" throughout the city, issuance of notices, citations and/or removal of signs.

To help the candidates and citizens of Fresno, the Code Enforcement Division has developed this brochure to guide you through the process of placing political signs in the City of Fresno. If you have any further questions, City staff will be happy to assist you.

Ray Villa
Code Enforcement Manager

POLITICAL SIGN INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE

Department of Planning and Development
Code Enforcement Division
2600 Fresno Street Room 3070
Fresno, CA 93721-3605
559-621-8400

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

The requirements for placing political signs, without requiring a permit, are as follows: [FMC 9-804 (g); 13-911 (k)]

1. Signs may be placed up to 90 days before the election and shall be removed 15 days following the election.
2. Signs do not exceed 32 square feet.
3. Signs may not be attached to utility poles, or placed in any public right-of-way or on any property owned by the City of Fresno or Redevelopment Agency of the City of Fresno.
4. Signs placed on private property shall have the permission of the property owner.
5. Signs may not be erected in such a manner as to interfere with, obstruct, confuse or mislead traffic
6. Exhibition, storage or repair of merchandise, signs (temporary, portable, or permanent or other forms of advertisement), bicycle racks, vending machines, or other obstructions upon any public sidewalk, median island, street, alley or public easement

Note: For signs not meeting these requirements, permits shall be obtained through the Planning & Development Department (559) 621-8227.

Don't Forget....

- ✓ Blocking pedestrian or vehicular access is not allowed.
- ✓ Blocking required parking is not allowed.
- ✓ Animated or moving signs are not allowed. (ie., balloons, strings of ornamental fringe or multiple pennants and signs consisting of any moving, swinging, rotating, flashing, blinking, oscillating, or otherwise animated display or surface)
- ✓ Signs are allowed in front yards areas (with the permission of the property owner/resident) but, not allowed in the parkstrip area (the area between the sidewalk and the curb).
- ✓ In areas where there is no sidewalk exists, there is a minimum setback area of 15' from the roadway. If you have specific questions concerning setback requirements at specific locations, please contact the Planning & Development Department (559) 621-8227.
- ✓ Signs in violation are subject to the issuance of notices, citations and/or removal of signs.



Frequently Asked Questions

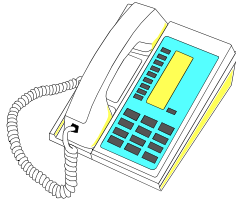
Why sign enforcement?

Sign Enforcement is designed to better the appearance of the signs located throughout the entire city as well as, make sure signs are placed in a manner consistent with the safety of the citizens of Fresno.



Who can I call if I have additional questions?

Staff are available in both Code Enforcement and the Development Department to answer your questions.



Planning & Development Department (559) 621-8277

Code Enforcement (559) 621-8400

Some of my signs have been removed, how can I get them back?

First, contact the City of Fresno, Code Enforcement Division at (559) 621-8400 or (559) 621-8440 to determine if the City has your sign. If your sign was removed by Code Enforcement, staff can assist you in determining where to go to pick up any signs in storage and what, if any, fees have been assessed.

